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Duldung — Tolerated Stay in Germany

Duldung is a temporary suspension of deportation from Germany, not a residence permit. Special pathways to legal residence exist through vocational training or employment.

Deutsche Begriffe: Duldung | Aussetzung der Abschiebung | Geduldete | Ausbildungsduldung

What is Duldung?

Duldung (tolerated stay) is a **temporary suspension of deportation**. It is NOT a residence permit — a person with Duldung is officially supposed to leave Germany, but deportation is temporarily suspended.

When is Duldung issued?

- **Lack of travel documents** — identity cannot be established
- **Illness** — health condition does not allow travel
- **War in country of origin** — temporary protection
- **Family situation** — e.g., minor children in Germany
- **Technical obstacles** — lack of flight connections

Types of Duldung

1. Standard Duldung

- Short-term (usually 3-6 months)
- Requires renewal

2. Ausbildungsduldung (for apprentices)

- During vocational training (2-3.5 years)
- After completion: possibility of residence permit

3. Beschäftigungsduldung (for employed persons)

- For people with Duldung employed for 18+ months
- Path to permanent residence

What can you do with Duldung?

Activity	Allowed?
Live in Germany	□ Yes
Work	⚠ Requires permission
Study	□ Yes
Open bank account	⚠ Difficult
Travel abroad	□ No
Driver's license	⚠ Possible with permission

Restrictions

- **Wohnsitzauflage** — obligation to reside in a specific location
- **Residenzpflicht** — prohibition on leaving the state (sometimes)
- **No social rights** — lower benefits (Asylbewerberleistungen)

Work with Duldung

- Requires approval from Ausländerbehörde
- First 3 months: work prohibited
- After 3 months: application for permission possible
- Ausbildungsduldung: automatic right to work in training company

Ausbildungsduldung — vocational training

Requirements:

• Apprenticeship contract (Ausbildungsvertrag)

• No criminal conviction

• Cooperation in identity verification

• Residence in Germany before training starts

Benefits:

• Duldung for entire training period

• After completion: 2 years of residence permit (Aufenthaltserlaubnis)

How to exit Duldung?

Options:

1. Ausbildungsduldung → Aufenthaltserlaubnis

2. Beschäftigungsduldung → Aufenthaltserlaubnis

3. Chancen-Aufenthaltsrecht (new since 2023) — for people with 5+ years of Duldung

4. Marriage to EU citizen

5. Change in situation in home country → new asylum application

Legal assistance

• **Flüchtlingsberatung** — free counseling

• **Pro Asyl** — aid organization

• **Rechtsanwalt für Ausländerrecht** — specialist lawyer